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Sixth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Africa

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 10-21 November 1986

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS

1. Opening of the Conference
2. Election of Officers
3. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
4. The status of Cartography in Africa
5. Standardization of specifications for topographical maps in Africa
6. Manpower development
7. Technical co-operation
8. Integrated continental geodetic and gravimetric networks in Africa
9. Research and Development on recent techniques in cartography and remote sensing
10. The Year of Cartography in Africa
11. Adoption of the report of the Conference
12. Date and Venue of the seventh Conference
13. Closing of the Conference

ANNOTATIONS OF THE AGENDA

1. Opening of the Conference

The Conference will be declared open by the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa at the headquarters of the Commission on Monday 10 November 1986 at 10:00 a.m.

2. Election of Officers

The Conference will elect a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, a Second Vice-Chairman and a Rapporteur in accordance with rules 14 and 15 of the Commission's rules of procedure. The officers so elected will hold office for the duration of the Conference.

3. Adoption of the Agenda and Organization of work

In accordance with rule 9 of the Commission's rules of procedure, the Conference will adopt its agenda, the rules of procedure and the report on credentials.

4. The status of cartography in Africa

(a) Reports of national and all agencies in mapping in Africa should present the current status of cartographic activities in geodesy, precise levelling, air photography, photogrammetry, basic topographical mapping, cadastre, remote sensing, thematic mapping (such as geological, hydrogeological, soils, census, atlases,urban and rural planning), etc. including information on equipment and new techniques. African national reports should, in addition, highlight: the measures taken by their governments to set up national cartographic institutions where they do not exist; or measures taken to strengthen existing ones.

(b) With regard to standardization of geographical names, representatives of linguistic divisions in Africa are required to present reports on their divisional activities highlighting advances made in implementing various recommendations on geographical names.

(c) All other contributions should be along the lines ennumerated in (a) above. ECA will also present a report on its findings with regard to the African mapping situation.

(d) The contribution of cartography and remote sensing efforts towards protection and monitoring of the environment, and food production sufficiency should also be mentioned.

5. Standardization of specifications for topographic maps in Africa

The ECA secretariat will present a report of the meeting of the group of experts on the standardization of specifications for topographical maps (E/ECA/NRD/CART/15) for consideration and adoption by the Conference.

6. Manpower development

Presentation should deal with:

(a) existing training structures in Africa at national and regional levels.

(b) training institutions outside Africa accepting African trainees.

In respect of (a) and (b) above, reports should provide entry level, training profiles and figures for African trainees trained or in training by end of December 1985.

(c) evaluating of the present local manpower situation and training needs of countries of member States by level and by specialisation for the next five years.

7. Technical co-operation

The following issues will be addressed:

(a) Intra-African co-operation in training as well as in the execution of cartographic and remote sensing projects;

(b) Co-operation with non-African countries in training and in the execution of cartographic and remote sensing projects including future prospects.

8. Integrated continental geodetic and gravimetric networks in Africa

In dealing with projects under this agenda item:

(i) the Regional Centre for Services in Surveying, Mapping and Remote Sensing as the executing agency for ADOS project will present a progress report;

(ii) African computing centres will also present their reports on data processing;

(iii) The Commission for Geodesy in Africa will present a report on the decisions of the third symposium on Geodesy in Africa.

9. Research and development on recent techniques in Cartography and remote sensing

Institutions or national organizations which carried out or are carrying out research in all fields of cartography and remote sensing are invited to present a synthesis of their work. The Conference will review the findings and their possible applications.

10. Year of Cartography in Africa

As a commemorative event for the Year, there will be the following functions:

(a) Key-note addresses on "Cartography for Development" will be delivered by invited speakers.

(b) The Regional Organizing Committee will report on the outcome of the commemorative activities.

11. Adoption of the report

The Conference will examine the draft report, make the necessary amendments and adopt it.

12. Date and venue of the Seventh Conference

The Standing Committee, established to ensure administrative and technical arrangements for the Conference and which met in Addis Ababa in February 1986, recommended that the Conference should determine the venue of the Seventh Conference and fix the dates for convening it. Concrete offers to host the Seventh Conference will be examined at plenary.

13. Closure of the Conference

The Conference will be declared closed by the Executive Secretary of the Commission on Friday, 21 November 1986.

There will be an exhibition of maps and other cartographic equipment and materials throughout the duration of the Conference.